

Diverse and Inclusive Books and Book Lists

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Book Title or List Author or URL	Description
TEACHER – PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT – Back to the top Highly recommended highlighted in blue	
Using Equity Audits in the Classroom to Reach and Teach All Students First Edition Kathryn B. McKenzie, Linda E Skrla	This book focuses on teacher and classroom practices and is important because in this time of changing demographics and increased diversity, many teachers find that the strategies they have used in the past are successful with only some of the students in their classes. They want and need strategies that will assist them in being successful with all their students. This book will provide teachers with new strategies and skills that will fit diverse needs. The book will also include a discussion of the history of equity auditing in education found in civil rights work, curriculum auditing, and state accountability systems.
Using Equity Audits to Create Equitable and Excellent Schools Linda E Skria	Grounded solidly in theory and the use of data, this resource provides practical, easy-to-implement strategies for effectively using equity audits to ensure a high-quality education for all students, regardless of socio-economic class. Readers will discover how to increase equity awareness at school and district levels and remedy inequalities in teacher quality, program design, and student achievement by using: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A set of "inequity indicators" for evaluating schools, generating essential data, and identifying problem areas Nine skill sets for improved equity-oriented teaching Charts, graphs, and support materials that can be customized for specific setting
Salsa, Soul, and Spirit: Leadership for a Multicultural Age Juana Bordas	One of America's historic strengths is the ability to incorporate aspects from many different cultures to create a stronger whole. Our music, literature, sports, architecture, food, and fashion have all benefitted. But current leadership approaches are overwhelmingly written by White males and remain distressingly Eurocentric. Juana Bordas has set out to change this. In this influential book, she shows how incorporating Latino, Black, and American Indian approaches can enrich leadership and offers a more viable model for our expanding multicultural society.
Courageous Conversations about Race : A Field Guide for Achieving Equity in Schools	This updated edition of the bestseller continues to explain the need for candid, courageous conversations about race so that educators may understand why achievement inequality persists and learn how they can develop a curriculum that promotes true educational equity and excellence.

Glenn Singleton	
Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?: And Other Conversations About Race Beverly Daniel Tatum	Walk into any racially mixed high school and you will see Black, White, and Latino youth clustered in their own groups. Is this self-segregation a problem to address or a coping strategy? Beverly Daniel Tatum, a renowned authority on the psychology of racism, argues that straight talk about our racial identities is essential if we are serious about enabling communication across racial and ethnic divides. These topics have only become more urgent as the national conversation about race is increasingly acrimonious. This fully revised edition is essential reading for anyone seeking to understand the dynamics of race in America.
Transformative Leadership in Education Carolyn M. Shields	Framed by real stories and grounded in research, the second edition of Transformative Leadership in Education presents an alternative approach to leadership that is engaged, active, and courageous. Noted scholar Carolyn M. Shields explores the concept of transformative leadership and its potential to create learning environments that are academically excellent, equitable, inclusive, and socially just, even in the face of the volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous world of education today. Chapters combine contemporary research findings with stories of schools, leaders, students, teachers, and community members to demonstrate that transformative leadership can promote academic achievement, family and community empowerment, democratic engagement, and global citizenship. This exciting text will appeal to all aspiring and practicing leaders who want to prepare students to be successful, caring, and engaged citizens of the global community.
The School to Prison Pipeline Nancy A. Heitzeg	How is racism perpetuated by the education system, particularly via the "school-to-prison pipeline?" How is the school to prison pipeline intrinsically connected to the larger context of the prison industrial complex as well as the extensive and ongoing criminalization of youth of color? This book uniquely describes the system of policies and practices that racialize criminalization by routing youth of color out of school and towards prison via the school-to-prison pipeline while simultaneously medicalizing white youth for comparable behaviors.
Organizational Theory for Equity and Diversity Colleen A. Capper	<i>Organizational Theory for Equity and Diversity</i> covers the full range of organizational theories as applied to educational leadership practice and research, exploring not only traditional perspectives but also critically oriented epistemologies including Critical Race Theory; LatCrit, Asian, Tribal Crit, and Black Crit; Disability Studies theories; feminist theories; Queer Theory, and theories of intersectionality. Each chapter features teaching suggestions, discussion questions, and questions to help aspiring leaders critically analyze their leadership strengths and limitations in order to understand, apply, and integrate theories into practice. This valuable text provides aspiring school leaders and administrators with the theory and tools for creating equitable and diverse schools that are effective and sustainable.
Stamped from the Beginning Ibram X. Kendi	In this deeply researched and fast-moving narrative, Kendi chronicles the entire story of anti-Black racist ideas and their staggering power over the course of American history. <i>Stamped from the Beginning</i> uses the life stories of five major American intellectuals - Puritan minister Cotton Mather, Thomas Jefferson, abolitionist William Lloyd Garrison, W.E.B. Du Bois, and legendary activist Angela Davis. - to offer a window into the contentious debates between assimilationists and segregationists and between racists and antiracists.
What if All the White Kids are White? Louise Derman-Sparks	Two distinguished early childhood educators tackle the crucial topic of what White children need and gain from anti-bias and multicultural education. The authors propose seven learning themes to help young White children resist messages of racism and build identity and skills for thriving in a country and world filled with diverse ways of being. This compelling text includes teaching strategies for early childhood settings, activities for families and staff, reflection questions, a record of 20th- and 21st-century White anti-racism activists, and organizational and website resources.
Culturally Responsive School Leadership Muhammad Khalifa	Muhammad Khalifa explores three basic premises. First, that a full-fledged and nuanced understanding of "cultural responsiveness" is essential to successful school leadership. Second, that cultural responsiveness will not flourish and succeed in schools without sustained efforts by school leaders to define and promote it. Finally, that culturally responsive school leadership comprises a number of crucial leadership behaviors, which include critical self-reflection; the development of culturally responsive teachers; the promotion of inclusive, anti-oppressive school environments; and engagement with students' indigenous community contexts.
How to be an Antiracist	Kendi takes listeners through a widening circle of antiracist ideas - from the most basic concepts to visionary possibilities - that will help listeners see all forms of racism clearly, understand their poisonous consequences, and work to oppose them in our systems and in ourselves.

Ibram X. Kendi	Kendi weaves an electrifying combination of ethics, history, law, and science with his own personal story of awakening to antiracism. This is an essential work for anyone who wants to go beyond the awareness of racism to the next step: contributing to the formation of a just and equitable society.
Safe is Not Enough: Better Schools for LGBTQ Students	Safe Is Not Enough illustrates how educators can support the positive development of LGBTQ students in a comprehensive way so as to create truly inclusive school communities. Using examples from classrooms, schools, and districts across the country, Michael Sadowski identifies emerging practices such as creating an LGBTQ-inclusive curriculum; fostering a whole-school climate that is supportive of LGBTQ students; providing adults who can act as mentors and role models; and initiating effective family and community outreach programs.
White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk about Racism Robin DiAngelo	In this "vital, necessary, and beautiful book" (Michael Eric Dyson), antiracist educator Robin DiAngelo deftly illuminates the phenomenon of white fragility and "allows us to understand racism as a practice not restricted to 'bad people'" (Claudia Rankine). Referring to the defensive moves that white people make when challenged racially, white fragility is characterized by emotions such as anger, fear, and guilt and by behaviors including argumentation and silence. These behaviors, in turn, function to reinstate white racial equilibrium and prevent any meaningful cross-racial dialogue. In this in-depth exploration, DiAngelo examines how white fragility develops, how it protects racial inequality, and what we can do to engage more constructively.
We Can't Teach What We Don't Know Gary R. Howard	Howard reviews the progress we have made (for example, the first Black president in the White House), as well as the lack of progress (the gutting of the 1965 Voting Rights Act, the epidemic of Black youth killed by police, and the persistence of race-based educational disparities) in regard to race. Making a case for the "fierce urgency of now", this new edition deepens the discussion of race and social justice in education with new and updated material. Aligned with our nation's ever more diverse student population, it speaks to what good teachers know, what they do, and how they embrace culturally responsive teaching.

ELEMENTARY STUDENTS – [Back to the top](#)

<p>Where are you from?</p> <p>Yamile Saied Méndez</p>	<p>When a girl is asked where she’s from—where she’s really from—none of her answers seems to be the right one. Unsure about how to reply, she turns to her loving abuelo for help. He doesn’t give her the response she expects. She gets an even better one. Where am I from?</p> <p>You’re from hurricanes and dark storms, and a tiny singing frog that calls the island people home when the sun goes to sleep.... With themes of self-acceptance, identity, and home, this powerful, lyrical picture book will resonate with readers young and old, from all backgrounds and of all colors—especially anyone who ever felt that they don’t belong.</p> <p>For ages 4-8</p>
<p>Something Happened in Our Town (A Child's Story About Racial Injustice)</p> <p>Marianne Celino</p>	<p>Recommended to help begin the difficult conversations about current events.</p> <p>For ages 4-8</p> <p>Awards: NCSS-CBC 2019 Notable Social Studies Trade Book for Young People 2018 National Parenting Product Award Winner (NAPPA) Picture Book Finalist in the 2018 Foreword INDIES Book Awards</p>
<p>We Are Water Protectors</p> <p>Carole Lindstrom</p>	<p>A powerful picture book that weaves an urgent call to action with a timely story about protecting nature's most sacred resource from harm and corruption.</p> <p>For ages 3-6</p>
<p>Fresh Princess</p> <p>Denene Millner</p>	<p>Meet Destiny—a cool, energetic, and strong-willed young girl who approaches every day with her own signature style! That is, until she moves to a brand-new neighborhood, where nothing looks quite the same as it did at her old house. Even with new challenges and new friends to make, Destiny always has a plan. With a few reminders from her loving family and after remembering what being the Fresh Princess is all about, she may just take the leap and jump right in!</p> <p>For 4-8</p>
<p>My Papi Has a Motorcycle</p> <p>Isabel Quintero</p>	<p>A celebration of the love between a father and daughter, and of a vibrant immigrant neighborhood, by an award-winning author and illustrator duo. When Daisy Ramona zooms around her neighborhood with her papi on his motorcycle, she sees the people and places she's always known. She also sees a community that is rapidly changing around her. But as the sun sets purple-blue-gold behind Daisy Ramona and her papi, she knows that the love she feels will always be there. With vivid illustrations and text bursting with heart, My Papi Has a Motorcycle, is a young girl's love letter to her hardworking dad and to memories of home that we hold close in the midst of change.</p> <p>For ages 4-8</p>
<p>Alma and How She Got Her Name</p> <p>Juana Martinez-Neal</p>	<p>What's in a name? For one little girl, her very long name tells the vibrant story of where she came from and who she may one day be. If you ask her, Alma Sofia Esperanza Jose Pura Candela has way too many names: six! How did such a small person wind up with such a large name? Alma turns to Daddy for an answer and learns of Sofia, the grandmother who loved books and flowers; Esperanza, the great-grandmother who longed to travel; Jose, the grandfather who was an artist; and other namesakes, too. As she hears the story of her name, Alma starts to think it might be a perfect fit after all and realizes that she will one day have her own story to tell. In her author-illustrator debut, Juana Martinez-Neal opens a treasure box of discovery for children who may be curious about their own origin stories or names.</p> <p>For ages 5-8 A 2019 Caldecott Honor Book.</p>

<p>Princess Truly books</p> <p>Kelly Greenawalt</p>	<p>Dream big with Princess Truly, o. an adorable new diverse character who knows she can be anything she wants to be! Princess Truly is strong and confident, beautiful and brave, bright and brilliant. She can do anything she sets her mind to.</p> <p>For ages 3-5</p>
<p>Carlos y Carmen series</p> <p>https://www.getepic.com/</p>	<p>These stories are about siblings, Carlos and Carmen, as they move, have their own bedrooms, play in their flooded backyard, and more.</p> <p>For ages 5-7</p>
<p>Hair Love</p> <p>Matthew A. Cherry</p>	<p>Zuri knows her hair is beautiful, but it has a mind of its own as it kinks, coils, and curls every which way. When Daddy steps in to style it for an extra special occasion, he has a lot to learn. Tender and empowering, this ode to loving your natural hair is a celebration of daddies and daughters everywhere. Written by former NFL wide receiver Matthew A. Cherry, this book is also an animated short film.</p> <p>For ages 5-6</p>
<p>Standing on Her Shoulders</p> <p>Monica Clark-Robinson</p>	<p>A stunning love letter to the important women who shape us - from our own mothers and grandmothers to the legends who paved the way for girls and women everywhere. Remarkable illustrations showcase a loving intergenerational family and the lyrical text encourages young girls to learn about the powerful and trailblazing women who laid the path for the future. It encourages girls to find female heroes in their own lives, empowers them to become role models themselves, and inspires readers of all ages to follow in the footsteps of these amazing women.</p> <p>For ages 4-8</p>
<p>All Because You Matter</p> <p>Tami Charles</p>	<p>Discover this poignant, timely, and emotionally stirring picture book, an ode to black and brown children everywhere that is full of hope, assurance, and love.</p> <p>Tami Charles pens a poetic, lyrical text that is part love letter, part anthem, assuring readers that they always have, and always will, matter. This powerful, rhythmic lullaby reassures readers that their matter and their worth is never diminished, no matter the circumstance: through the joy and wonder of their first steps and first laughs, through the hardship of adolescent struggles, and the pain and heartbreak of current events, they always have,</p> <p>For ages 4-8 2021 SCBWI Golden Kite Award Finalist</p>
<p>Little Leaders: Bold Women in Black History</p> <p>Vashti Harrison</p>	<p>Featuring 40 black women in American history, this beautifully illustrated book educates and empowers readers, as it relates true stories of breaking boundaries and achieving beyond expectations. Illuminating text paired with irresistible illustrations bring to life both iconic and lesser-known female figures of African American history, such as abolitionist Sojourner Truth, pilot Bessie Coleman, chemist Alice Ball, politician Shirley Chisholm, mathematician Katherine Johnson, poet Maya Angelou, and filmmaker Julie Dash.</p> <p>Among these biographies, readers will find bold women whose actions and beliefs contributed to making the world better for generations of girls and women to come. Whether they were putting pen to paper, soaring through the air, or speaking up for the rights of others, the women profiled in these pages were all taking a stand against a world that didn't always accept them.</p> <p>For ages 8-12</p>
<p>Little Legends: Exceptional Men in Black History</p>	<p>Among these biographies, readers will find aviators and artists, politicians and pop stars, athletes and activists. The exceptional men featured include artist Aaron Douglas, civil rights leader John Lewis, dancer Alvin Ailey, filmmaker Oscar Micheaux, musician Prince, photographer Gordon Parks,</p>

Vashti Harrison	<p>tennis champion Arthur Ashe, and writer James Baldwin. The legends in this book span centuries and continents, but they all changed the world forever!</p> <p>For ages 8-12</p>
<p>Little Dreamers: Visionary Women Around the World</p> <p>Vashti Harrison</p>	<p>Featuring the true stories of 35 women creators, ranging from writers to inventors, artists to scientists, Visionary Women Around the World inspires as it educates. Readers will meet trailblazing women like Mary Blair, an American modernist painter who had a major influence on how color was used in early animated films, actor/inventor Hedy Lamar, environmental activist Wangari Maathai, architect Zaha Hadid, filmmaker Maya Deren, and physicist Chien-Shiung Wu. Some names are recognizable, some are not, but all of these extraordinary women had a lasting effect on the fields they worked in.</p> <p>For ages 7-10</p>
<p>Building Zaha</p> <p>Victoria Tentler-Krylov</p>	<p>The city of Baghdad was full of thinkers, artists, and scientists, the littlest among them Zaha Hadid. Zaha knew from a young age that she wanted to be an architect. She set goals for herself and followed them against all odds. A woman in a man's world, and a person of color in a white field, Zaha was met with resistance at every turn. When critics called her a diva and claimed her ideas were unbuildable, she didn't let their judgments stop her from setting goals and achieving them one by one, finding innovative ways to build projects that became famous the world over. She persisted, she followed her dreams, and she succeeded.</p> <p>For ages 4-8</p> <p>2021 Rise: A Feminist Book Project List</p>
<p>The Floating Field: How a Group of Thai Boys Built Their Own Soccer Field</p> <p>Scott Riley</p>	<p>On the island of Koh Panyee, in a village built on stilts, there is no open space. How will a group of Thai boys play soccer? After watching the World Cup on television, a group of Thai boys is inspired to form their own team. But on the island of Koh Panyee, in a village built on stilts, there is no open space. The boys can play only twice a month on a sandbar when the tide is low enough. Everything changes when the teens join together to build their very own floating soccer field.</p> <p>For ages 7-11</p>
<p>Amy Wu and the Perfect Bao</p> <p>Kat Zhang</p>	<p>Meet the funny, fierce, and fearless Amy Wu, who is determined to make a perfect bao bun today. Can she rise to the occasion? Amy loves to make bao with her family. But it takes skill to make the bao taste and look delicious. And her bao keep coming out all wrong. Then she has an idea that may give her a second chance...Will Amy ever make the perfect bao?</p> <p>For ages 4-8</p>
<p>I Am One: A Book of Action</p> <p>Susan Verde</p>	<p>Discover the power of activism in this companion to New York Times bestsellers I Am Human and I Am Love! One seed to start a garden, one note to start a melody, one brick to start breaking down walls: Every movement and moment of change starts with purpose, with intention, with one. With me. With you.</p> <p>For ages 4-8</p>
<p>Sometimes People March</p> <p>Tessa Allen</p>	<p>Sometimes people march to resist injustice, to stand in solidarity, to inspire hope.</p> <p>Throughout American history, one thing remains true: no matter how or why people march, they are powerful because they march together.</p> <p>For ages 4-8</p>

<p>Our Favorite Day of the Year</p> <p>A.E. Ali</p>	<p>A heartwarming picture book following a group of boys from different backgrounds throughout the school year as they become the best of friends.</p> <p>Musa's feeling nervous about his first day of school. He's not used to being away from home and he doesn't know any of the other kids in his class. And when he meets classmates Moisés, Mo, and Kevin, Musa isn't sure they'll have much in common. But over the course of the year, the four boys learn more about each other, the holidays they celebrate, their favorite foods, and what they like about school. The more they share with each other, the closer they become, until Musa can't imagine any better friends.</p> <p>For ages 4-8</p>
<p>Grandpa Grumps</p> <p>Katrina Moore</p>	<p>Daisy's Yeh-Yeh is visiting from China, and try as she might, Daisy can't get her grumpy grandpa to smile!</p> <p>Daisy's Yeh-Yeh is visiting for the first time from China, and Daisy is so excited to meet him! She has big plans for all the fun they'll have together, like tea parties and snow angels, but when Yeh-Yeh arrives, Daisy finds him less jolly than she imagined. Throughout the week, she tries all sorts of things to get him past his grumpiness. Will she be able to make him smile before he goes home?</p> <p>For ages 4-8</p>
<p>Your Name Is a Song</p> <p>Jamilah Thompkins-Bigelow</p>	<p>Frustrated by a day full of teachers and classmates mispronouncing her beautiful name, a little girl tells her mother she never wants to come back to school. In response, the girl's mother teaches her about the musicality of African, Asian, Black-American, Latinx, and Middle Eastern names on their lyrical walk home through the city. Empowered by this newfound understanding, the young girl is ready to return the next day to share her knowledge with her class. Your Name is a Song is a celebration to remind all of us about the beauty, history, and magic behind names.</p> <p>For ages 5-10</p>
<p>Danbi Leads the School Parade</p> <p>Anna Kim</p>	<p>Meet Danbi, the new girl at school!</p> <p>Danbi is thrilled to start her new school in America. But a bit nervous too, for when she walks into the classroom, everything goes quiet. Everyone stares. Danbi wants to join in the dances and the games, but she doesn't know the rules and just can't get anything right. Luckily, she isn't one to give up. With a spark of imagination, she makes up a new game and leads her classmates on a parade to remember! Danbi Leads the School Parade introduces readers to an irresistible new character. In this first story, she learns to navigate her two cultures and realizes that when you open your world to others, their world opens up to you.</p> <p>For ages 3-7</p>
<p>Harvesting Hope: The Story of Cesar Chaves</p> <p>Kathleen Krull</p>	<p>Cesar Chavez is known as one of America's greatest civil rights leaders. When he led a 340-mile peaceful protest march through California, he ignited a cause and improved the lives of thousands of migrant farmworkers. But Cesar wasn't always a leader. As a boy, he was shy and teased at school. His family slaved in the fields for barely enough money to survive.</p> <p>Cesar knew things had to change, and he thought that--maybe--he could help change them. So he took charge. He spoke up. And an entire country listened.</p>
<p>Phoenix Goes to School: A Story to Support Transgender and Gender Diverse Children</p> <p>Michelle Finch</p>	<p>My Mommy tells me I'm perfect and to be brave.</p> <p>"You know who you are," she says,</p> <p>"Just be yourself and always listen to your heart."</p> <p>With those words of encouragement from her Mom, Phoenix is preparing for her first day of school. She is excited but scared of being bullied because of her gender identity and expression. Yet when she arrives at school she finds help and support from teachers and friends, and finds she is brave enough to talk to other kids about her gender!</p>

	For ages 3-7
Side by Side/Lado a Lado: The Story of Dolores Huerta and Cesar Chavez/La Historia de Dolores Huerta y Cesar Chavez Monica Brown	A powerful and accesible bilingual picture book that highlights "the power and impact of ordinary but dedicated citizens."* Every day, thousands of farmworkers harvested the food that ended up on kitchen tables all over the country. But at the end of the day, when the workers sat down to eat, there were only beans on their own tables. Then Dolores Huerta and Cesar Chavez teamed up. Together they motivated the workers to fight for their rights and, in the process, changed history.
More Monica Brown books https://www.amazon.com/Monica-Brown/e/B001JS1L50/ref=dp_byline_cont_top_book_1	
Qué cosas dice mi abuela (The Things My Grandmother Says) Ana Galan	Using traditional Spanish-language sayings, a grandmother teaches manners to his grandchildren and their friends. A boy narrates the events of a regular day, relating along the way his grandmother's advice on manners, which come in the form of traditional Spanish-language sayings. Un niño narra los eventos de un día cualquiera, y cuenta sobre los consejos que siempre le da su abuela, los cuales son refranes muy conocidos en el idioma español.
Rainbow: A First Book of Pride Michael Genhart	A must-have primer for young readers and a great gift for pride events and throughout the year, beautiful colors all together make a rainbow in <i>Rainbow: A First Book of Pride</i> . This is a sweet ode to rainbow families, and an affirming display of a parent's love for their child and a child's love for their parents. With bright colors and joyful families, this book celebrates LGBTQ+ pride and reveals the colorful meaning behind each rainbow stripe. Readers will celebrate the life, healing, light, nature, harmony, and spirit that the rainbows in this book will bring. For ages 3-5
Separate is Never Equal Duncan Tonatiuh	Seven years before Brown v. Board of Education, the Mendez family fought to end segregation in California schools. Discover their incredible story in this picture book from award-winning creator Duncan Tonatiuh For ages 6-9 A Pura Belpré Illustrator Honor Book and Robert F. Sibert Honor Book!
Heather has Two Mommies Leslea Newman	Heather's favorite number is two. She has two arms, two legs, two pets—and two mommies. When Heather goes to school for the first time, someone asks her about her daddy, but Heather doesn't have a daddy. Then something interesting happens. When Heather and her classmates all draw pictures of their families, not one drawing is the same. For ages 3-7
Rosa Nikki Giovanni	Fifty years after her refusal to give up her seat on a Montgomery, Alabama, city bus, Mrs. Rosa Parks is still one of the most important figures in the American civil rights movement. This tribute to Mrs. Parks is a celebration of her courageous action and the events that followed. For ages 4-8

<p>Love Makes a Family</p> <p>Sophie Beer</p>	<p>Love is baking a special cake. Love is lending a helping hand. Love is reading <i>one more</i> book. In this exuberant board book, many different families are shown in happy activity, from an early-morning wake-up to a kiss before bed. Whether a child has two moms, two dads, one parent, or one of each, this simple preschool read-aloud demonstrates that what's most important in each family's life is the love the family members share.</p> <p>For ages 0-3</p>
<p>La Frontera: El Viaje Con Papa / My Journey with Papa</p> <p>Deborah Mills</p>	<p>Join a young boy and his father on a daring journey from Mexico to Texas to find a new life. They'll need all the resilience and courage they can muster to safely cross the border - la frontera - and to make a home for themselves in a new land.</p> <p>For ages 6-9</p>
<p>Dreamers</p> <p>Yuyi Morales</p>	<p>We are resilience. We are hope. We are dreamers.</p> <p>Yuyi Morales brought her hopes, her passion, her strength, and her stories with her, when she came to the United States in 1994 with her infant son. She left behind nearly everything she owned, but she didn't come empty-handed.</p> <p>For ages 4-8 Multiple awards</p>
<p>Too Many Tamales</p> <p>Gary Soto</p>	<p>Christmas Eve started out so perfectly for Maria. Snow had fallen and the streets glittered. Maria's favorite cousins were coming over and she got to help make the tamales for Christmas dinner. It was almost too good to be true when her mother left the kitchen for a moment and Maria got to try on her beautiful diamond ring . . .</p> <p>This is the story of a treasure thought to be lost in a batch of tamales; of a desperate and funny attempt by Maria and her cousins to eat their way out of trouble; and the warm way a family pulls together to make it a perfect Christmas after all.</p> <p>For ages 4-8</p>
<p>Bowwow Powwow</p> <p>Brenda J. Child</p>	<p>Windy Girl is blessed with a vivid imagination. From Uncle she gathers stories of long-ago traditions, about dances and sharing and gratitude. Windy can tell such stories herself—about her dog, Itchy Boy, and the way he dances to request a treat and how he wriggles with joy in response to, well, just about everything.</p> <p>For ages 3-7</p>
<p>The Day You Begin</p> <p>Jacqueline Woodson</p>	<p><i>There will be times when you walk into a room and no one there is quite like you.</i></p> <p>There are many reasons to feel different. Maybe it's how you look or talk, or where you're from; maybe it's what you eat, or something just as random. It's not easy to take those first steps into a place where nobody really knows you yet, but somehow you do it.</p> <p>For ages 5-8</p>
<p>I Am Human: A Book of Empathy</p> <p>Susan Verde</p>	<p>Being human means we are full of possibility. We learn, we dream, we wonder at the world around us. But we also make mistakes and can feel fearful or sad.</p> <p>For ages 4-8</p>
<p>Laxmi's Mooch</p>	<p>Laxmi never paid much attention to the tiny hairs above her lip. But one day while playing farm animals at recess, her friends point out that her whiskers would make her the perfect cat. She starts to notice body hair all over--on her arms, legs, and even between her eyebrows.</p>

Shelly Anand	<p>With her parents' help, Laxmi learns that hair isn't just for heads, but that it grows everywhere, regardless of gender. Featuring affirming text by Shelly Anand and exuberant, endearing illustrations by Nabi H. Ali, <i>Laxmi's Mooch</i> is a celebration of our bodies and our body hair, in whichever way they grow.</p> <p>For ages 4-8</p>
<p>Milo Imagines the World</p> <p>Matt de la Pena</p>	<p>Milo is on a long subway ride with his older sister. To pass the time, he studies the faces around him and makes pictures of their lives. There's the whiskered man with the crossword puzzle; Milo imagines him playing solitaire in a cluttered apartment full of pets. There's the wedding-dressed woman with a little dog peeking out of her handbag; Milo imagines her in a grand cathedral ceremony. And then there's the boy in the suit with the bright white sneakers; Milo imagines him arriving home to a castle with a drawbridge and a butler. But when the boy in the suit gets off on the same stop as Milo--walking the same path, going to the exact same place--Milo realizes that you can't really know anyone just by looking at them.</p> <p>For ages 4-8</p>
<p>Drawn Together</p> <p>Minh Le</p>	<p>When a young boy visits his grandfather, their lack of a common language leads to confusion, frustration, and silence. But as they sit down to draw together, something magical happens--with a shared love of art and storytelling, the two form a bond that goes beyond words.</p> <p>For ages 3-5</p>
<p>I Am Every Good Thing</p> <p>Derrick Barnes</p>	<p><i>I am a nonstop ball of energy. Powerful and full of light. I am a go-getter. A difference maker. A leader.</i></p> <p>The confident Black narrator of this book is proud of everything that makes him who he is. He's got big plans, and no doubt he'll see them through--as he's creative, adventurous, smart, funny, and a good friend. Sometimes he falls, but he always gets back up. And other times he's afraid, because he's so often misunderstood and called what he is not. So slow down and really look and listen, when somebody tells you--and shows you--who they are. There are superheroes in our midst!</p> <p>For ages 3-7</p>
<p>A Different Pond</p> <p>Bao Phi</p>	<p>A Different Pond is an unforgettable story about a simple event - a long-ago fishing trip. Graphic novelist Thi Bui and acclaimed poet Bao Phi deliver a powerful, honest glimpse into a relationship between father and son - and between cultures, old and new. As a young boy, Bao and his father awoke early, hours before his father's long workday began, to fish on the shores of a small pond in Minneapolis. Unlike many other anglers, Bao and his father fished for food, not recreation. A successful catch meant a fed family. Between hope-filled casts, Bao's father told him about a different pond in their homeland of Vietnam.</p> <p>For ages 6-8</p>
<p>The Most Beautiful Thing</p> <p>Kao Kalia Yang</p>	<p>Drawn from author Kao Kalia Yang's childhood experiences as a Hmong refugee, this moving picture book portrays a family with a great deal of love and little money. Weaving together Kalia's story with that of her beloved grandmother, the book moves from the jungles of Laos to the family's early years in the United States.</p>

	<p>When Kalia becomes unhappy about having to do without and decides she wants braces to improve her smile, it is her grandmother—a woman who has just one tooth in her mouth—who helps her see that true beauty is found with those we love most.</p> <p>For ages 5-9</p>
<p>Civil Rights Then and Now: A Timeline of the Fight for Equality in America</p> <p>Kristina Brooke Daniele</p>	<p>Take a crash course in the social justice issues that keep the United States from realizing its promise of equality! This civil rights book for kids is simultaneously a guide for parents and educators who worry about broaching the topics of racism, discrimination, and prejudice. Civil Rights Then and Now: A Timeline of the Fight for Equality in America presents the reader with facts, biographies, and landmark supreme court cases in an easily digestible manner and within a historical context. The minor editorializing helps to guide readers to understand the events that have shaped the United States and then challenges them to become advocates for change. Included in this book are vocabulary lists, questions for comprehension and discussion, and even essay/journaling prompts. This information-packed social justice book and civil rights timeline introduces readers to a selection of many critical civil rights movement events in black history. From the embarrassing origins of Slavery to the modern struggle against systemic and overt oppression, this book will spark conversations about subjects that we can no longer afford to ignore.</p> <p>For ages 8-12</p>
<p>If You Were a Kid During the Civil Rights Movement (If You Were a Kid)</p> <p>Gwendolyn Brooks</p>	<p>Follow along with two girls as they find themselves in the middle of a civil rights demonstration, and find out how the fight for equality changed the country forever.</p> <p>Joyce Jenkins has recently moved to a new town with her family, and she will soon be attending a segregated school for the first time. Meanwhile, Connie Underwood is trying to figure out what her twin brothers are planning in secret. Readers (Ages 7-9) will follow along with the two girls as they find themselves in the middle of a civil rights demonstration, and find out how the fight for equality changed the country forever.</p> <p>For ages 7-9</p>
<p>Ruth and the Greenbook</p> <p>Calvin Alexander Ramsey</p>	<p>Ruth was so excited to take a trip in her family's new car! In the early 1950s, few African Americans could afford to buy cars, so this would be an adventure. But she soon found out that black travelers weren't treated very well in some towns. Many hotels and gas stations refused service to black people. Daddy was upset about something called Jim Crow laws . . .</p> <p>Finally, a friendly attendant at a gas station showed Ruth's family <i>The Green Book</i>. It listed all of the places that would welcome black travelers.</p> <p>For ages 7-11</p>
<p>The Watsons go to Birmingham</p> <p>Christopher Paul Curtis</p>	<p>When the Watson family—ten-year-old Kenny, Momma, Dad, little sister Joetta, and brother Byron—sets out on a trip south to visit Grandma in Birmingham, Alabama, they don't realize that they're heading toward one of the darkest moments in America's history. The Watsons' journey reminds us that even in the hardest times, laughter and family can help us get through anything.</p> <p>For ages 8-12 Newbery Medal and Coretta Scott King Award</p>
<p>Battle of the Books – Elementary</p> <p>https://www.d11.org/ Page/3443</p>	<p>Many of the books on the Battle of the Books list focus on inclusivity and culture.</p>

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<p>Civil Rights Then and Now: A Timeline of the Fight for Equality in America</p> <p>Kristina Brooke Daniele</p>	<p>Take a crash course in the social justice issues that keep the United States from realizing its promise of equality! This civil rights book for kids is simultaneously a guide for parents and educators who worry about broaching the topics of racism, discrimination, and prejudice. Civil Rights Then and Now: A Timeline of the Fight for Equality in America presents the reader with facts, biographies, and landmark supreme court cases in an easily digestible manner and within a historical context. The minor editorializing helps to guide readers to understand the events that have shaped the United States and then challenges them to become advocates for change. Included in this book are vocabulary lists, questions for comprehension and discussion, and even essay/journaling prompts. This information-packed social justice book and civil rights timeline introduces readers to a selection of many critical civil rights movement events in black history. From the embarrassing origins of Slavery to the modern struggle against systemic and overt oppression, this book will spark conversations about subjects that we can no longer afford to ignore.</p> <p>For ages 8-12</p>
<p>Serafina's Promise</p> <p>Ann E. Burg</p>	<p>A luminous novel in verse from the author of the Jefferson Cup award winner All the Broken Pieces. Serafina has a secret dream. She wants to go to school and become a doctor with her best friend, Julie Marie. But in their rural village outside Port-au-Prince, Haiti, many obstacles stand in Serafina's way — little money, never-ending chores, and Manman's worries. More powerful even than all of these are the heavy rains and the shaking earth that test Serafina's resolve in ways she never dreamed.</p> <p>At once heartbreaking and hopeful, this exquisitely crafted story will leave a lasting impression on your heart.</p> <p>For ages 10-14</p>
<p>The Watsons go to Birmingham</p> <p>Christopher Paul Curtis</p>	<p>When the Watson family—ten-year-old Kenny, Momma, Dad, little sister Joetta, and brother Byron—sets out on a trip south to visit Grandma in Birmingham, Alabama, they don't realize that they're heading toward one of the darkest moments in America's history. The Watsons' journey reminds us that even in the hardest times, laughter and family can help us get through anything.</p> <p>For ages 8-12 Newbery Medal and Coretta Scott King Award</p>
<p>Battle of the Books – Elementary</p> <p>https://www.d11.org/ Page/3576</p>	<p>Many of the books on the Battle of the Books list focus on inclusivity and culture.</p>

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<p>The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian</p> <p>Sherman Alexie</p>	<p>Bestselling author Sherman Alexie tells the story of Junior, a budding cartoonist growing up on the Spokane Indian Reservation. Determined to take his future into his own hands, Junior leaves his troubled school on the rez to attend an all-white farm town high school where the only other Indian is the school mascot.</p>
<p>More Sherman Alexie books</p> <p>http://fallsapart.com/novelsandshortstories</p>	
<p>Black Like Me</p> <p>John Howard Griffin</p>	<p>In the Deep South of the 1950's, a color line was etched in blood across Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Georgia. Journalist John Howard Griffin decided to cross that line. Using medication that darkened his skin to deep brown, he exchanged his privileged life as a Southern white man for the disenfranchised world of an unemployed black man.</p> <p>What happened to John Howard Griffin—from the outside and within himself—as he made his way through the segregated Deep South is recorded in this searing work of nonfiction. His audacious, still chillingly relevant eyewitness history is a work about race and humanity every American must read.</p>
<p>Moonshot</p> <p>Michael Sheyahshe</p>	<p>The Indigenous Comics Collection brings together dozens of creators from North America to contribute comic book stories showcasing the rich heritage and identity of indigenous storytelling. From traditional stories to exciting new visions of the future, this collection presents some of the finest comic book and graphic novel work on the continent.</p>
<p>Everyday Use</p> <p>Alice Walker</p>	<p>Alice Walker's early story, "Everyday Use," has remained a cornerstone of her work. Her use of quilting as a metaphor for the creative legacy that African Americans inherited from their maternal ancestors changed the way we define art, women's culture, and African American lives. By putting African American women's voices at the center of the narrative for the first time, "Everyday Use" anticipated the focus of an entire generation of black women writers.</p>
<p>Hope on a Tightrope: Words and Wisdom</p> <p>Cornel West</p>	<p>Offers provocative, open-hearted wisdom for our times. In a world that yearns for unarmed truth and unconditional love, in the midst of cold greed and blind hatred, Hope on a Tightrope offers a new compass. This courageous collection will challenge all those in search of new perspectives and provides deep wells of inspiration that marry the mind to the heart.</p>
<p>Fish Cheek (short stories)</p> <p>Amy Tan</p>	<p>A teen is embarrassed by her Chinese food traditions at Thanksgiving, but realizes in the end that her mother served all her favorite foods.</p>
<p>Blue Eyes and Brown Eyes: The Jane Elliott Experiment</p> <p>https://exploringyourmind.com/blue-eyes-and-brown-eyes-the-jane-elliott-experiment/</p>	<p>Jane Elliott's Blue Eyes and Brown Eyes experiment was a turning point in social psychology. In this article, we'll explain what happened during the experiment and discuss its consequences.</p> <p>Oprah interview video</p> <p>Jimmy Fallon interview video</p>

WEBSITES WITH BOOK SUGGESTIONS FOR ALL STUDENT LEVELS – [Back to the top](#)

<p>International Reading Association Notable Book for a Global Society</p> <p>http://www.clrsig.org/nbgs-lists.html</p>	<p>Annually, a committee of the CL/R SIG (Children’s Literature and Reading Special Interest Group) of the International Literacy Association selects 25 outstanding trade books for enhancing students understanding of people and cultures throughout the world. The committee reviews books representing all genres intended for students K-12.</p> <p>To be eligible for NBGS annual list, a book must have been published in the United States the previous year. For example, the books on the 2019 list were published in 2018.</p>
<p>Pura Belpre award winning books</p> <p>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pura_Belpr%C3%A9_Award</p>	<p>The Pura Belpré Award is a recognition presented to a Latino or Latina author and illustrator whose work best portrays the Latino cultural experience in a work of literature for children or youth. It was established in 1996.[1] It was given every other year since 1996 until 2009 when it was changed to be given annually.[2]</p> <p>The award is named in honor of Pura Belpré, the first Latina librarian from the New York Public Library. As a children's librarian, storyteller, and author, she enriched the lives of Latino children through her pioneering work of preserving and disseminating Puerto Rican folklore.</p>
<p>Rise: A Feminist Book Project for Ages 0-18</p> <p>https://guides.library.unlv.edu/c.php?g=403811&p=4572139</p>	<p>Formerly known as the Amelia Bloomer Book List, in January 2020, the name of this list was changed to Rise: A Feminist Book Project for Ages 0-18.</p> <p>"The Rise: A Feminist Book Project list presents well-written and illustrated books with strong feminist messages published in the past 18 months that are recommended for young people from birth through eighteen years of age. It is a list of quality fiction and nonfiction titles that affirm positive roles for girls and women."</p>
<p>A Mighty Girl website</p> <p>https://www.amightygirl.com/</p>	<p>"The world's largest collection of books, toys and movies for smart, confident, and courageous girls. "</p> <p>Huge website with so many categories and options. Two categories to note: Mighty Girls and Role Models.</p>
<p>65 Graphic Novels for Kids Starring Mighty Girls</p> <p>https://www.amightygirl.com/blog?p=13390&fbclid=IwAR0VcLria1gGO-qgkmQhM4MAd_3mPfkMitGPU_JTTVZamWQSqy0ik3FKEdI</p>	<p>Graphic novels for girls and with Mighty Girls as main characters.</p>
<p>Books amplifying black voices at Scholastic</p> <p>https://shop.scholastic.com/parent-ecommerce/featured-</p>	<p>Books amplifying black voices</p>

shops/celebrating-black-authors.html	
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